

Every Stranger
His Own Guide
to
Niagara Falls

by

W. E. HULETT





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EVERY STRANGER

HIS OWN GUIDE TO

NIAGARA FALLS.

The latest and most comprehensive work yet before the Public.

CONTAINING

A TABLE OF DISTANCES, AND THE INTERMEDIATE
PLACES ON THE FIVE PRINCIPAL ROUTES
LEADING FROM NIAGARA FALLS TO
ALBANY, VIA MONTREAL, QUEBEC,
AND SARATOGA SPRINGS.

BY W. E. HULETT,

A Resident at the Falls.

BUFFALO:
STEELE'S PRESS.

.....
1844.

INTRODUCTION.

At the solicitation of many strangers, the author offers this, Guide to the Public, who may wish to view the Falls, on both sides of the river, to the best advantage, without loss of time.

This guide takes you from your hotel, or stopping place, to Bridge street, corner of the Eagle Tavern, designated by guide board,

“BRIDGE ST.—To BATH ISLAND.”

The proprietors of the Island have erected guide boards, at all necessary points, on the island; so that the stranger need not stray, to his disadvantage. This guide takes the stranger from these guide boards, at different points, to all the points of interest:—every point being minutely described. Having these facilities, it would seem impossible for a living guide to enable a stranger to view the Falls, with greater satisfaction. Most questions usually asked by strangers, at the different points, will be found answered, in this work, under the head of “*Questions and Answers.*”

NOTICE.

This work is intended to be a correct guide for strangers, stopping on either side of the river. If you arrive first on the Canada side, from the Clifton House you will proceed up the bank, to Table Rock, taking the book as your guide; return to the ferry; cross to the American side; ascend the ferry steps, follow up the bank of the river to Bath Island bridge; cross over to the Toll House; follow the directions from this point which the book affords, and you will be enabled to examine all the places on the American side, to your satisfaction.

GUIDE FOR THE STRANGER TO VIEW THE FALLS.

Should you arrive at the Falls on the American side, you will proceed to the Hotel of your choice, register your name, secure your room, dispose of your baggage; and after recovering in a measure from the fatigues of your journey, proceed to Bridge Street, a few rods to the north of the Cataract House. (*See Guide Board at the corner of the Eagle Tavern.*)

Pass down this street to the bridge, which takes you over the rapids, to Bath Island. On this Island, you will find the Toll House, where you will register your name, pay 25 cents, which entitles you to visit all the islands, as often as you choose, during your stay, or for the current year, without any additional charge. If you cross with a carriage you pay no more.

Proceed from Bath Island across the bridge, which takes you to Iris Island, sometimes known by the name of Goat Island. Ascend the bank, when you will find a guide board, directing you to "Hog's Back."

From this guide board, follow the path to the right, until you arrive at the above named place, which is the extreme lower part of the island. Nearly under this point, between the Biddle Stair Case and the Cave of the Winds, Doct. Hungerford, of West Troy, N. Y., was killed by falling rocks, while viewing the Falls from below, in the month of May, 1839.

Descend the bank, by the path at this point, to the Cascade, or Centre Fall. By looking directly across this centre fall, you will discover there, profiles under the edge of the American Falls. Pass over this narrow bridge, and you are on Luna Island.

Cross to the opposite side of Luna Island, and you reach the American Fall, at the point which affords you the best view of it on the American side.

Retrace your steps to the top of the bank—the Hog's Back. Proceed a few rods up the current, to the Biddle Steps. Descend this staircase without fail. At this point, Sam Patch made two leaps, from a platform raised on a ladder, 96 feet above the waters edge, and supported by braces from the bank above.

At the bottom of this stairway, you will find two paths, leading in opposite directions.

First, take the path to the right, down the current. Follow this path until you arrive at the centre fall. Behind this sheet of water, is the "CAVE OF THE WINDS." If you have the curiosity to pass under this sheet of water, into the cave, you may do so with perfect safety, by only receiving a good shower-bath from the spray.

When you have sufficiently studied the sublimity and grandeur which this point affords, return to the Biddle Steps. Continue your walk up the agitated stream, under the bank. On your way you will cross a ravine from which flows a spring of mineral water—slightly impregnated with sulphur, and containing some soda. You will find a draught from this spring quite refreshing, and not unpleasant to the taste.

If the wind should be up the river, proceed onward to the foot of the Horse Shoe fall. Cast your eyes upward whence this mighty torrent comes, then downward wheth-

er it descends into the foaming gulf; and you will be lost in doubt, whether to wonder most at the grandeur above, or the depth of sublimity below. Such scenes are only for silent meditation. Words have no part or lot in them.

Returning by the Biddle Steps to the height of the Island, and taking a little necessary rest, proceed across the foot of Iris Island, up the current, until you arrive at a small building, erected by the proprietors of the island, as a shelter from the storm, and the rays of the scorching sun. This point is called "PROSPECT PLACE."

Descend the bank in front of this building, to "TERRAPIN BRIDGE." Pass over the bridge, and ascend "PROSPECT TOWER," forty five feet high. From this height you have one of the most impressive views that can be had on the American side. Terrapin Bridge formerly extended some sixteen or eighteen feet over the brink of the precipice. The projecting part was broken down by the large quantities of ice, accumulated from the spray.

The staircase you see in front of you, on the Canada side, leads down to the path by which you can pass 153 feet behind the falling sheet of water. The building you see a short distance below the staircase, is Barnett's Museum.

The almost barren Island you see, above the falls, near the Canada shore, is called Gull Island. On this desolate and lonely spot, living man has never trod. In the spring and fall, it is whitened with immense flocks of Gulls. Hence its name.

Cast your eyes up the rapids; you will see the hull of the ship Detroit, fitted up in 1841, for the purpose of being sent over the falls, with "VETO" painted on her sides. The Detroit was the Flag Ship of the British

squadron, captured by Commodore Perry, Sept. 10, 1813.

Return to Prospect Place. Here rest. Gaze with wonder on the mighty flood before you. Pursue your course up the current. You here lose sight of the falls; but are richly compensated by views of the rapids, and the picturesque scenery that increases in splendor as you approach the head of the island.

The Three Sister Islands are about half way up the right side of Iris Island. The outer one of this group, is the island from which Mr. J. R. Robinson rescued a Mr. Allen, who was cast upon its shore, in the year 1841.

Near the foot of this group of islands, you will see a guide board in your path, directing you the nearest route to your hotel. If you are pressed for time, you can save twenty minutes, by taking this path across the island, otherwise pass onward in your way to the head of Iris Island.

Near the head of the Three Sister Islands, you will observe a cascade, which was the favorite bathing place of Francis Abbott, the Hermit of the falls. Directly under this cascade, is a cavern, which you may enter, for some distance, on your hands and feet.

The first of these three islands, is called, by many, Moss Island, from the fact that it is covered with a heavy bed of moss.

You will be highly delighted with your ramble quite to the head of Iris Island. At this point you will have a beautiful view of the width of the whole river, above the falls, and the smooth surface of the waters in front. But turning your eye to the right or left, you see the rapids in all their majesty.

And here let us stop for a moment. The first island you see, to the right, near the Canada shore, is NAVY

ISLAND. It belongs to Canada, and contains 304 acres. This island was occupied by the "*Patriots*," in the winter of 1837—8. Their object was to receive recruits, to revolutionize Canada, Wm. L. MacKinzie was commander in chief. Batteries were erected on this island, for their own safety; and batteries were also erected on the Canada shore, opposite, to dislodge them. Much powder was burned; but all ended in smoke. The island was evacuated in January, 1838.

The land you see to the left, is the foot of GRAND ISLAND, 12 miles long, from 3 to 7 miles wide, and containing 17,384 acres.

At the left of Grand Island, is BUCKHORN ISLAND; but at this point it has the appearance of being a part of the same island; as the strait that separates them cannot be seen.

These two last mentioned islands, belong to the State of New York.

On the American shore, at the left, you will observe a rude massive chimney, quite too large for the small white building around it. This chimney is the last remnant of Old Fort Schlosser, built by the French, long before the conquest of Canada. It is about one mile distant from the head of the island.

Schlosser Landing, two miles and a half from the head of Iris Island, is hidden from view by the projection of land on which old Fort Schlosser once stood. This landing is noted as the scene of the affair of the Caroline. This ill fated steamboat while lying moored at the wharf, on the night of the 29th. of December, 1837, was surprised by a party of volunteers from Canada, cut out, towed into the stream, and set on fire. In a blaze of flame she was carried by the rapids over the falls.

The pier you see a little to the left, extending some distance up the rapids, was constructed for the purpose of raising a head of water sufficiently high, to carry water by a canal, through the village, for hydraulic purposes.

Pass around the head of the island, down the Ameican channel, until you arrive at a log house, fronting the rapids. This was the residence of FRANCIS ABBOT, the Hermit, for twenty months, during the years 1829 and 30.

A little farther down the stream, you come to a picket fence, in rear of Iris Island Garden. This place is supposed to be an ancient burying ground of the Indians. Many human bones have been dug up, at and near this place.

I have now taken you quite around Iris Island. We will now recross the bridge to Bath Island.

The large white building to the left, is a Paper Mill. It belongs to A. H. PORTER, Esq. The small island you see, back of the toll house, is called SHIP ISLAND. You can pass to this island by a bridge leading to it, from the end of the toll house. The other small island near this, is called BRIG ISLAND.

We will now recross the bridge, to the main shore. Near the main shore, the first island below the bridge, is called CHAPIN'S ISLAND: so named from this circumstance. A Mr. Chapin, while shingling this bridge, was thrown from his scaffold into the rapids, and cast by them upon the head of this island, from which he was rescued by Mr. J. R. Robinson, without injury. This happened in the year 1839. No particular names or circumstances of importance, are attached to the other small islands below the bridge.

We have now returned from our jaunt around Iris Island, to the main shore. Let us now take the path to

the left, from the bridge down the rapids, to the FERRY; distance about eighty rods. At and near the ferry, you will have various and magnificent views of the American Fall, which the obliging ferryman, S. WARE, Esq., will point out to your best advantage.

A few rods below, upon a rise of ground, is POINT VIEW GARDEN, enclosed by a high board fence. Within this enclosure, you will perceive a Pagoda, rearing its lofty spars, 275 feet above the apparently calm river below, and 105 feet above the inaddening current of the river above the falls. Upon its top is to be placed a Camera Obscura, by its enterprising owner, Mr. Robinson.

POINT VIEW, the last residence of Francis Abbott, is within this enclosure. As the proprietors, MR. & MRS. ROBINSON, are very free in giving every required information, within their favorite enclosure, it is needless for me to say more of this beautiful spot.

I have now conducted you to all the places, on the American side, from which the Falls are to be seen to the best advantage. The next places of interest on this side of the river, in the vicinity, are the BELLEVUE MINERAL SPRINGS, two miles below the Falls, a place much resorted to on account of the Cold and Hot Baths, and a distant view of the cataract:—the WHIRLPOOL, three miles below the Falls:—and the DEVIL'S HOLE, three and a half miles. At these last mentioned places, you will realize the combination of the grandeur and immensity of the *one great feature* of the scene, with other most astonishing and tremendous displays of nature's sublimity. There are few visitants who do not avail themselves of the pleasure of a jaunt to these places.

The TUSCARORA INDIAN VILLAGE, is seven miles below the Falls. This place is much visited on Sundays, by strangers, to attend the Indian Church.

At this point you have a splendid view of seven miles of the Niagara River—Fort Niagara, on the American side—Fort Massasauga and Fort George, on the Canada side. You have also a delightful view of Lake Ontario, with steamboats and sail vessels traversing its surface.

At the Livery of Messrs. CLARK & PIERCE, you may procure any mode of conveyance you desire, in the best style, and at reasonable charges. The drivers acting as Guides, will give every information required. With these facilities, the stranger may visit one or all of these points, at such time as shall suit his convenience.

We will now cross the river, to the Canada side. The boat ferry, right below the falls, is the only crossing place between Schlosser and Lewiston. Descend the steps at this ferry, and while descending, take a view from the windows of the stair case, which are left open for this purpose. When at the bottom, turn to your left. Take the path leading to the edge of the falling sheet. Here you will have the nearest view of the highest fall, 164 feet, and an indescribable view of the whole Fall. Retrace your steps to the Ferry Landing. Pay your ferriage, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents. You are now crossing the mighty river. It has been remarked by many, the view while crossing, is the most awfully grand and terrific, of any of the many interesting views described. Not the least danger, however, is to be apprehended. It is considered the safest ferry on the river, and with justice; for no accident whatever, has ever happened, to endanger life or health.

Having landed from the boat, on the Canada side, you will proceed up the bank, by a carriage road, to the Clifton House. Here refresh yourselves; and if you wish a carriage to visit all the places of interest in the vicinity, on that side, I would recommend you to make yourselves

known to the landlord; as you cannot depend on all the hungry swarms who may be about the ferry, ready to make all manner of pretensions, to lighten you of your cash.

You will now proceed up the stream, on the bank, until you arrive at MR. BARNETT's MUSEUM. This Museum is visited by almost every stranger, and gives universal satisfaction. No one who visits it, regrets paying the moderate charge.

Proceed but a short distance further, to a building, near the Horse Shoe Fall, and you are on TABLE Rock. Pass through this building, and you will find a spiral stair case, leading you to the foot of the Horse Shoe Fall. If you wish to pass 153 feet behind the falling sheet, you can do so; the proprietor will furnish you with a dress and guide. If not, you can descend the steps, take the path to the right, go to the edge of the falling sheet, without a guide. Above you hangs Table Rock.

When satisfied with the stupendous scene, both above and below, retrace your steps to the Clifton House. To avail yourself of every advantageous point of view, ascend to the promenade on the top of the Clifton House, where you can revel in thoughts of this tremendous exhibition of Omnipotent power.

The places of interest which remain to be seen, on the Canada side, are the BURNING SPRINGS, one mile up the river; CHIPPEWA BATTLE GROUND, three miles above the Falls; LUNDY's LANE BATTLE GROUND, one and half miles west of the Clifton House, and BROCK's MONUMENT, seven miles below the falls, on Queenston Heights.

For carriages to these places of interest, on the Canada side, apply at the Clifton House. Drivers, acting as guides, relating all the incidents connected with the

different points above mentioned, must make your ride both agreeable and interesting.

Having returned, we will descend the bank to the ferry, pay $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents, and in 7 minutes, we are landed on the American side. Ascend the ferry steps; gaze for a moment upon the indescribable wonder we are about turning our eyes from; but the roar of the mighty cataract falls heavily upon your ear, as you wind your way through the grove, back to your hotel.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS USUALLY ASKED BY STRANGERS.

Why is Iris Island called Goat Island?

From this circumstance:—A Mr. Steadman, who resided at Schlosser, in 1770, managed to get some goats upon the island.

What are the earliest dates, or names, to be found about the Falls?

The oldest genuine dates, of any name found, is in the year 1769. But on the rocks near the American Fall, are chizzelled out names, and dated 1711, 1726, 1745.

What is the height of the Falls?

The water of the American Fall, as ascertained by actual measurment, falls 164 feet: The Horse Shoe Fall, on the Canada side, 158 feet.

What is the height of the Stone Tower, at Terrapin Bridge?

Forty five feet, with winding steps to the top; erected in 1833.

In what year were the Biddle Steps erected? And whence their name?

Erected in 1829; and named from Nicholas Biddle, Esq. of Philadelphia; that gentleman having made a very liberal donation for their construction. Their height is 78 feet.

When was the PAVILION burned:—the once fashionable house, kept by Mr. Forsyth, upon the Canada side?

It was destroyed by fire, in 1836.

What is the depth of water on the verge of the Horse Shoe Falls?

About twenty feet.

What is the depth of the river, at the Ferry below the Falls?

Ascertained by sounding to be about 250 feet.

Who gave the first description and drawing of the Falls, that may be relied upon?

Father Hennepin, a French Missionary; who visited it in 1678.

What is the quantity of water supposed to flow over the Falls, per minute?

Doct. Dwight computes it at 102,093,750 tons per hour; Mr. Darby, at 1,672,704,000 cubic feet per hour.

In what year did a portion of Table Rock fall?

In July, 1818; the mass that fell was 160 feet in length, and in width 40 feet. On the 9th. of December, 1828, three immense masses fell from the Horse Shoe Fall; another large piece fell in the summer of 1829. The falling of these tremendous portions of rock, was heard for miles, and caused a shock like an earthquake.

What is the farthest distance the Falls may be heard?

That depends entirely upon the atmosphere and wind. They are distinctly heard from five to twenty miles; and it is said, they have been heard at Toronto—a distance of forty miles.

What is the whole fall of the river, from Buffalo to Lewiston?

The river falls from Lake Erie to Chippewa, 20 feet; from Chippewa to the Horse Shoe Fall, (one mile,) 48 feet; the perpendicular falls 158 feet; from the foot of the fall to Lewiston, 101 feet: making the whole fall, from Buffalo to Lewiston, (a distance of 24 miles,) 321 feet.

What number of visitors are supposed to visit the Falls yearly?

The number, for the last ten years, has increased from 12 to 30 thousand. The largest number congregated together, at any one time, was in the year 1827. Notice had been given that a large vessel, (the Michigan,) was to be sent over the Falls. October 1828, another vessel was sent over the Falls.

In the summer of 1841, the Ship Detroit was purchased, for the purpose of sending her over the Falls. The idea that a ship, under full sail, is to be sent over the Falls, has, in every instance, called together thousands, at this place. But in every instance, the vessels procured and fitted up for that purpose, have been dashed in pieces, before they reached the precipice.

How was the Iris Island bridge constructed?

The first bridge constructed to Bath Island, was in 1818, by first building a pier at the water's edge, sliding out long timbers over the pier, the distance required to sink a second pier; the timbers being loaded with stone, at the ends on shore, sufficient to ballance and bear up any weight on the outer ends, required to commence the sinking of the second pier. The second pier was constructed by sinking a crib, or frame, at the extremity of the timbers, steadyng the same by ropes, and filling the crib with stones, thus forming the nucleus, around which

to form the second pier. Thus carrying the timbers forward, as before, until the line of piers was completed across the river. This bridge was thoroughly repaired in 1841, the most part of the timber being entirely new, making it much more substantial than the original bridge.

The first bridge built from the main land to Iris Island, was constructed in 1817, sixty rods up the current from the present bridge, near the flouring mill, and was swept away by the ice the following spring.

INCIDENTS.

In the year 1820, two men, in a state of intoxication, fell asleep in a scow boat, fastened to the shore, near Chippewa creek. The boat broke loose, and floated into the stream. They awoke, finding themselves and scow in the rapids, beyond the reach of hope.

In the year 1822, two men, in removing furniture from Grand Island to the main shore, was drawn into the rapids, and went over the Falls.

In 1825, two men, in attempting to smuggle whiskey from Schlosser to Chippewa, it being in the night, and their canoe heavily loaded, were capsized and went over the Falls.

In July, 1832, a canal boat was blown over from Chippewa to the American side, and lodged on the rocks a few rods above Iris Island Bridge. Two men and a woman was on board. They were rescued, and the boat drawn ashore.

In 1829, Sam Patch jumped twice, in the presence of thousands, from a ladder, 97 feet high. This ladder was

erected below the Biddle steps, rising from the water's edge, steadied at the top by braces from the bank above. Poor Sam lost his life, soon after this exploit, at Rochester, jumping the Falls of Genesee, at that city. His body was never found.

In 1835, two men, in a scow, attempting to go into Chippewa creek, were driven by the wind into the rapids. One jumped into the river, and reached a shoal, where he remained until he was rescued, with great hazard to the person who rescued him. The other man and scow went over the Falls.

July 25, 1839, Mr. Chapin, of this place, while shingling the present bridge that leads to Bath Island, was thrown from his scaffold, carried down the rapids, and thrown by the current upon the head of the first island below the bridge; but was rescued, the same day, by the skillful oarsman, Mr. J. R. Robinson.

In May, 1829, Doct. Hungersford, of West Troy, was killed, near the foot of the Biddle steps, while viewing the Falls, in company with Mr. Nile, of Ohio. A mass of rocks from above, fell upon him. Mr. Nile escaped unhurt.

In the summer of 1841, Mr. Allen, of this place, while crossing in a skiff, above the Falls, to Chippewa, having the misfortune to break an oar, was drawn into the rapids. By keeping possession of his mind, he managed to direct his skiff, so as to strike the head of the outer island above Iris Island, one of the group called the Three Sisters. As his boat struck the island, he leaped ashore, and succeeded in clambering up the rocky bank. He remained upon the island until sometime the next day but one, when he was discovered and rescued, by Mr. J. R. Robinson, the celebrated oarsman.

In November, 1841, two men, York and Kennedy, engaged in smuggling whiskey, into Canada, took aboard of their canoe, at Schlosser, a heavier load of whiskey than was prudent. They started after dark; and when some distance from shore, their boat capsized, Kennedy passed over the Falls with the whiskey; York was found dead on Grass Island, one mile and a half below Schlosser. It would seem, that it is dangerous to load too heavy with whiskey.

In 1843, a man, engaged in drawing sand from the river, two miles above Chippewa, in backing his waggon into the river, not aware of the boldness of the shore; the waggon was precipitated off the steep bank. The box floated down the current: and the man being no swimmer, suffered himself to be carried slowly on, and at last was seen to pitch into the rapids. His name was Morgan.

On the 9th of April, 1844, a canal boat, towed from the mouth of Chippewa creek, and bound for Buffalo, parted her tow-line, and the boat was taken into the rapids. The steersman jumped overboard, and swam ashore. One horse, two hogs, and the furniture of a moving family, were on board. Fortunately, the family who owned them, were walking the tow-path, when the accident happened.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, HERMIT OF THE FALLS.

June 10, 1831, the Hermit was drowned, while bathing in the river near the ferry. Francis Abbott, either through

misfortune, or a morbid state of mind, selected this place to retire from the gaze of the world: during the day he would keep himself mostly secluded from sight, and ramble over the most hazardous places by night. He was very prepossessing in his manners, highly cultivated, and liberally educated, he composed much, but destroyed it as soon as composed, he was fond of music, used most instruments with ease and elegance. The only relic of this singular personage, is a guitar, which can be seen by those disposed, by calling at Mr. Hooker's guide office.

The Hermit arrived at the Falls in June, 1829, and was drowned in 1831.

PLACES OF INTEREST ON THE AMERICAN SIDE.

GOAT ISLAND BY MOONLIGHT.

Goat Island, in a moonlight night, is the resort of multitudes of strangers. It presents a scene of unusual beauty and magnificence. The rapids at such a time, sparkle with phosphoric splendor; and nature wears a universal charm of loveliness. The Luna Bow, seen at night, in the time of full moon, appears like a brightly illuminated arch, reaching from side to side, and is an object of great attraction, as the world presents but few other places where this bow is seen.

THE RAPIDS BELOW THE FALL,

Commences three-fourths of a mile below the ferry, and

extends to Lewiston; a distance of 7 miles. Many persons, who have stopped sufficient to follow the river bank to Lewiston, have expressed themselves more delighted at seeing the rapids, than the Falls. By a visit to the Belleview Springs, Whirlpool, Devil's Hole, &c. you will have some of the most awfully grand scenes of the rapids.

BELLEVIEW SPRINGS,

Are two miles below the Falls. This spring is becoming noted for its medicinal qualities, and is much resorted to. The proprietor has attached to the spring a bathing house, where you can procure, at all reasonable times, Hot and Cold Baths.

THE WHIRLPOOL.

This place is visited by almost every person, who visits the Falls. An omnibus runs regularly, every two hours to and from the Whirlpool, (passing Belleview springs,) most persons are enabled to enjoy this rich jaunt, without much loss of time.

The proprietor has been to considerable trouble and expense, in making steps from the top of the bank to the water's edge, that you may see this celebrated malstrom to the best advantage.

THE DEVIL'S HOLE,

Is three and a half miles below the Falls. The Visitant

looks into it with silent amazement. Sufficiently broad are the steps that lead to its bottom, and many there are that descend them. From the table rock projecting over this abyss, you have a delightful view of the rapids in the river below. There is a saw mill standing on this table rock, supplied in the spring and fall, by a stream which empties into the Devil's Hole; this stream is called the BLOODY RUN, from the circumstance, that the Indians, in the old French war, waylaid a company of British Soldiers at this point, as they were passing from Fort Niagara to Fort Schlosser, and forced them all over the precipice, together with their baggage and teams; except what soldiers were tomahawked and scalped and thrown into the stream; the blood from their mangled corps', caused the water to have the appearance of a running stream of blood. This creek has since been called, and known as the Bloody Run, at the Devil's Hole.

THE TUSCARORA INDIANS,

Are located 7 miles northeast from the Falls, on the height of ground over looking an extensive level country bordering on Lake Ontario. Large numbers of strangers visit their church on Sundays. They have a Missionary that preaches in the English Language, and one of the Chiefs interpret in the Tuscarora tongue.

Fort Niagara, the village of Youngstown, on the American side; Fort George, Fort Massasauga and Niagara village, on the Canada side; 7 miles of the Niagara river, Lake Ontario as far as the eye can reach, comprises the view you have at the Indian church.

FORT SCHLOSSER,

Is two miles above the Falls. All that remains of this ancient Fort, is a stack of a chimney, and some traces of the embankments. This fort was built by the French, long before the conquest of Canada, and known in history as a place of much importance.

PLACES OF INTEREST ON THE CANADA SIDE.

THE BURNING SPRING,

Is one mile above the Falls. This singular spring is in a constant ebullition. From it issues a stream of hydrogen gas, which quickly ignites on the touch of a lighted candle.

BENDER'S CAVE,

Is one mile below the Clifton House, near the top bank, you descend from the bank by a ladder, 10 feet, which leads you into the cave.

BROCK'S MONUMENT.

Stands 7 miles down the river from the Clifton House, on the highest point of land in this vicinity, on the Canada side; its height was originally 126 feet, but was blown up with powder in the year 1841, by some unknown

person, supposed to be Benjamin Lett, now in Auburn State prison for attempting to blow up the Steamer Gt. Britain, while lying in the harbor at Oswego. This monument was dedicated to the many civil and military services of SIR ISAAC BROCK, Governor and Major Gen'l of the province of U. C. He fell in action on the 13th. of October, 1812. His remains are deposited in a vault beneath this monument. The most of this structure is yet standing, but is in a much shattered and ruined state.

LUNDY'S LANE.

Is a place much visited; it once being the scene of much blood shed. The battle of Bridge Water and Lundy's Lane, was fought on a height of ground called Lundy's Lane Battle Ground, one mile west of the Clifton House, at this place. Generals Brown and Scott attacked the British under Gen'l Drummond. The action lasted from 5 o'clock in the afternoon until 12 o'clock at midnight, when both armies retired from the field. Gen'l Drummond retreated to Fort Niagara, 14 miles; Gen'l Brown retreated back to camp, at Bridge Water, 2 miles above the Falls. The Americans lost in killed, wounded and missing 860, including Gen'l's Brown and Scott, wounded. The British acknowledge their loss in killed, wounded and missing, to be 826, including Gen'l's Drummond and Real, wounded, the latter taken prisoner. This battle was fought on the night of the 25th. of July, 1814. There is generally to be found on the ground, an old veteran soldier, who was in the action. He takes great pride in pointing out the different positions and manœu-

vering of the two armies, and gives you a general description of the whole battle.

Fort Erie taken by the Americans, July 3, 1814,

Battle of Queenston, October 13, 1814,

Villages of Niagara, Queenston and Youngstown, burned by the English, December 19, 1814,

Buffalo and Black Rock, burned December 13, 1814,

The above dates are remembered by many of the inhabitants in this vicinity, with thrilling interest.

THE FIVE PRINCIPAL ROUTES LEADING FROM NIAGARA FALLS TO ALBANY.

Daily passage line of American Steam Boats for Montreal and Quebec, via Lake Ontario.

From N. Falls to Lewiston or Queenston, by Stage or R. Road. At Lewiston you take the Steam Boat, which touches at the following places: Youngstown (pass Fort Niagara,) Rochester, Oswego, Sacketts Harbor, Kingston, and Ogdensburg; at Prescott you take the old mail line by steam boat and stage, or by propellers, down the rapids to Montreal, from Montreal to Quebec, you take the royal mail line of steam boats to Quebec.

DAILY PASSAGE LINE OF BRITISH STEAM BOATS TO MONTREAL AND QUEBEC, VIA L. ONTARIO.

From Niagara Falls to Queenston or Lewiston,	From N. Falls.
by Stage or Rail Road, - - -	miles 7
" Lewiston to Niagara, S. B.	7 14
" Niagara to Toronto, S. B.	36 57

From Toronto to Kingston, - - -	178	228
“ Kingston to Prescott, - - -	75	303
“ Prescott to Cornwall, - - -	49	352
“ Cornwall to Coteau de Lac, - -	41	393
“ Coteau de Lac to Cascades, S. -	14	407
“ Cascades to La Chine, S. B. -	24	431
“ La Chine to Montreal, S. -	9	440
“ Montreal to Three Rivers, - -	85	525
“ Three Rivers to Quebec, - - -	95	620

N. B. A boat leaves Queenston and Lewiston, three times a week; Monday, Wednesday and Friday, for Kingston and Montreal direct.

ROUTE FROM QUEBEC TO ALBANY, VIA SARATOGA.

From Quebec to Three Rivers, S. B.	95	C. E.
“ Three Rivers to Montreal, “	85	“ 180
“ Montreal to La Prarie, “	7	“ 187
“ La Prarie to St. Johns, R. R.	17	“ 204
“ St. Johns to Isle Aux Noit, S. B.	14	“ 218
“ Isle Aux Noit to Rous Point, “	10	“ 228
“ Rous Point to Shazy, “	12	“ 240
“ Shazy to Plattsburgh, S. B.	15	N. Y. 255
“ Plattsburgh to Burlington, “	26	“ 281
“ Burlington to Crown Point, “	38	“ 319
“ Crown Point to Ticondaroga, “	15	“ 334
“ Ticondaroga to Alexandria, Stage,	3	“ 337
“ Alexandria to Colwell, S. B.	36	“ 373
“ Colwell to Saratoga, Stage,	27	“ 400

The stranger can, if he chooses, continue on board of the Steam Boat from Ticondaroga to White Hall, from

White Hall to Sandy Hill, Glens Falls and Saratoga, by stage; you can make your own choice of the two routes, as they are both pleasant and highly interesting.

LAKE ONTARIO ROUTE TO ALBANY VIA
OSWEGO AND SARATOGA.

From N. Falls to Lewiston or Queenston, by R. R. or S. 7

“ Lewiston to Ft. Niagara,	S. B.	7	14
“ Ft. Niagara to Rochester,	“	85	99
“ Rochester to Oswego,	“	58	157
“ Oswego to Syracuse,	Packet,	38	195
“ Syracuse to Utica,	R. R. or “	53	248
“ Utica to Schenectady,	“ “	78	326
“ Schenectady to Saratoga,	“	22	348
“ Saratoga to Troy,	“	33	381
“ Troy to Albany,	S. B.	6	387

ROUTE FROM N. FALLS TO ALBANY, VIA
SARATOGA, BY RAIL ROAD.

From Niagara Falls to Buffalo,	-	-	22
“ Buffalo to Batavia,	-	-	47
“ Batavia to Rochester,	-	-	32
“ Rochester to Canandagua,	-	-	29
“ Canandagua to Geneva,	-	-	23
“ Geneva to Auburn,	-	-	17
“ Auburn to Syracuse,	-	-	26
“ Syracuse to Utica,	-	-	53
“ Utica to Schenectady,	-	-	78
“ Schenectady to Saratoga,	-	-	22
“ Saratoga to Troy,	-	-	33
“ Troy to Albany, S. B.	-	-	6
			398

ROUTE FROM N. FALLS TO ALBANY, VIA LOCKPORT
BY RAIL ROAD AND CANAL.

From Niagara Falls to Lockport, by R. R.	24
" Lockport to Rochester, Packet,	64
At Rochester you intersect the eastern line of Packets, or Rail Road for Syracuse	85
At Syracuse you can take your choice in the Packets or Rail Road to Utica,	53
From Utica to Schenectady, you can take your choice in the two lines, Packets or Rail Road, 73	226
At Schenectady you take the R. Road to Troy, Albany or Saratoga, distance from Schenectady to Albany.	17
	316

A train of Steam Cars leave the Falls for Lockport, daily, which meet the Ridge Road line of Stages which run daily between Lockport and Rochester, and connects with the Rail Road and Packet route for Albany, as above.

Distance from Niagara Falls to Chicago, by Steam Boat, - - - - - 1022 miles.

For a further description of this route, see Steele's Western Guide.

Route from Niagara Falls to Buffalo, on the Canada side.

A Steam Boat runs daily between Chippewa and Buffalo; you take the Stage or Rail Road at the Clifton House, for Chippewa, two miles above the Falls; from Chippewa to Buffalo, 17 miles, by Steam Boat.

THE HYDRAULIC POWER OF N. FALLS COMPARED WITH THE MOTIVE POWER OF GT. BRITAIN.

Picturesque tourists, album poets, first and last, have thought and said much of Niagara Falls, their wonders,

terrors and grandeur. At the same time, they have but a faint idea of the almost incredible hydraulic power of the Falls of Niagara.

Mr. Allin, an engineer of reputation, has furnished a computation, based on actual measurment, of the hydraulic power of Niagara Falls. The column of water which passes over the falls, is stated to be 347,000 cubic feet of water per second.

This is stated to be equal to 1,403,500,000 pounds of water, flowing over the falls per minute, with a fall of 160 feet. After deducting one third for waste, gives a net quantity of power equal to 4,533,334 horses.

To illustrate the practical amount of this power for business purposes, Mr. A. makes this statement: Mr. Baines, of England, estimates the whole motive power now in use in Great Britain, in the manufactories of cotton, wool, hemp and flax, likewise the whole motive power used in mining, and propelling of boats, &c., equal to 233,000 horse power. But of all this power, the working of which produces such a vast proportion of the wealth of Great Britain, amounts to no more than one-tenth of the motive power of Niagara Falls.

THE FALLS OF NIAGARA.

It is impossible to describe this stupendous wonder of creation; poetry languishes, elegance is dumb; before the naked majesty of God. Every thing indicates that you are in the vicinity of destruction. A certain indefinable sensation of fear, mingled with courage—admiration with terror—delight with apprehension, pervades the soul; while to the pious mind, this sentiment reigns preponderate. How glorious are thy works, O Lord! To form any thing like a correct idea of this immense body of wa-

ter, that flows over this cataract, you must conceive all waters from the great rivers and lakes, Superior, Huron, Michigan and Erie, the surface of which is over 150,000 square miles, the waters of which are compressed in two narrow channels, at the Falls, not more than three-fourths of a mile in width. The immense column of water which flows over the Horse Shoe fall, is two-fourths of a mile in width, the rapids commence three-fourths of a mile above this fall, the descent in this distance, to the brink of the Horse Shoe fall, is 56 feet, the river in this distance rushes with resistless fury, over a shapeless rocky bed, to the awful leap, and tumble over the precipice, 164 feet.

The American channel is one-fourth of a mile wide, divided from the main channel that flows over the Horse Shoe fall, by Iris or Goat Island, which contains 75 acres; you cross from the main shore to this island, by a bridge which takes you over the rapids. From this bridge cast your eyes up the agitated stream, you will see the crested breakers dashing towards you with foam and fury, tossing from 10 to 20 feet above the maddening current; cast your eyes down the stream, your sight follows this raging torrent to the brink of the American fall, where the waters plunge from the awful precipice 168 feet, into the gulf below. The mist that is caused from the tremendous chasm of the two Falls, rises high in the air, and is seen at the distance of forty miles. The earth trembles while the mind, collecting and concentrating its energies, to grasp the greatness of the scene, seems to lose its power, at the view of such overwhelming majesty. The high and frightful shores, on either side, the mist which clothes with spring verdure all around, and in which mist the daring eagle floats away to the shining sun, far from the clouds and spray that moisten forever these wild shores.

An Observatory is standing some distance out in the stream, overlooking the Horse Shoe fall, connected with this island by Terrapin bridge, on which is carved many a long forgotten name. In the observatory you may stand in speechless wonder, and listen to the deafning roar of the tumbling waters. No pause! no silence ever reaches this awful spot! on his rainbow painted throne of clouds, the genius of Niagara sits in peerless majesty, while his misty wreath is hurled to the very skies! still the lovely bow of promise, encircles his diadem, like mercy hushing the storm, when unable to sooth the moody monarch, she dissolves herself in tears far and wide, over grottoes and shores covered with perpetual green!

You may have stood upon the lofty mountain, in the buoyant and joyful days of youth, looking with unutterable delight over the immense landscape that was stretched out before you, bounded by the dim horizon, enclosing spring's verdure, summer's loveliness and autumn's pride; silvery lakes, fairy dales, peace enchanting bowers, inhaling the odors as they rise in sweet profusion before you, when the distant hum of the wild bee was sending up, in an undertone, to the great Creator, its moiety of praise. You may have stood upon the sea beaten shore of the indomitable deep, and stretched your fancy to grasp in the wide, the immeasurable waters before you, and reach, if possible, the dashings of the opposite shore, from whence the breakers were rushing with agitated frenzy at your feet; you may have listened to the deep toned thorough bass of ocean, rolling his unutterable response to the music of the elements. But of all that is lovely in landscape, terrible in deep, even to the revellings of the most gorgeous fancy, of all that can entrance and bind

down the imagination, their is nought to rival the scene that NIAGARA presents. Ye stupendous wonders of creation! proud and gorgeous as ye are, your requiem shall be sung at the dissolution of expiring nature! Your roar shall be as mute as the silence of the sepulchre! The time will come, when that mighty arm that prepared your bed, shall make your tomb, curb your proud might, and lay you in the silence of oblivion forever!

CONTENTS.





The American Fall from Goat Island

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